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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5 A method and mechanism operating within the Application layer of the  
architectural model for maintaining high availability in a two node computer network  
which utilizes alternate pathing. A failover mechanism operating within the Application  
layer monitors the original, primary network path. Upon detecting a failure of the primary  
path, the failover mechanism halts monitoring of the primary connection, configures the  
alternate network interface with the parameters of the primary network interface, and  
10 brings up the backup interface.

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